



Skills Funding
Agency

Update

Issue 314
22 June 2016

Welcome

In this issue of Update, our weekly round-up of business-critical and useful information to Skills Funding Agency-funded colleges, other training organisations and direct grant employers:

1. **Invitation to Tender: Apprenticeship and Traineeship Services to Schools**
2. **Procurement Opportunity: Higher and Degree Apprenticeships**
3. **Apprenticeship Grant for Employers Devolution**

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1. Invitation to Tender: Apprenticeship and Traineeship Services to Schools

Information

We are procuring services to support schools in meeting their statutory duty to deliver independent careers information, advice and guidance to young people, by offering information and tools about apprenticeships and traineeships. This Invitation to Tender closes at **5.00pm** on **11 July**.

We will award a maximum of four contracts to ensure coverage of all Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) areas; we expect the delivery of contracts to commence in September 2016.

The services should add value to the range of activity delivered locally by LEPs, National Careers Service Area-based contractors, and with projects commissioned by the Careers & Enterprise Company.

For further information or related queries, please visit the [Bravo e-tendering portal](#).

[Back to top](#)

2. Procurement Opportunity: Higher and Degree Apprenticeships

Information

We have launched a £20 million procurement opportunity for additional further and higher education organisations to provide higher and degree apprenticeships (Levels 4 to 7) in the 2016 to 2017 funding year.

You can access this Invitation to Tender (30102) and associated documents through the [Bravo e-tendering portal](#). Organisations that already hold a funding agreement for this provision do not need to apply through this procurement and should request growth through the usual process.

On Tuesday, 28 June, we are holding a briefing session for organisations wishing to prepare for their application.

For further information or to attend the briefing session, please email the [Higher Apprenticeships](#) mailbox.

[Back to top](#)

3. **Apprenticeship Grant for Employers Devolution Information**


Following final agreement on the latest round of devolution deals, six areas will receive devolved funding for the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE), effective from 1 August 2016.

Next week, we will issue the monthly AGE Central Delivery Service note to colleges and other training organisations in receipt of an AGE Grant. This will list the in-scope local authorities for each deal. It will also set out the arrangements for the collection and transfer of AGE Grant from those in-scope providers.

For further information, please visit the [Apprenticeship Grant for Employers](#) page on GOV.UK.

[Back to top](#)



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511